



Unitatem et Libertas

Association of Iranian Human Rights & Allies

124 City Road, London EC1V 2NX

2nd February 2024

Dear Senator Ben Cardin ,

Subject: Regional and global threats posed by the Islamic Republic.

I hope this message finds you well and in good health. I am writing to bring to your attention the critical situation unfolding due to the actions of the Islamic Republic over the last four decades.

The Islamic Republic's aggressive promotion of extremist Shi'a Islam and revolutionary fervour has significantly contributed to regional instability, conflicts, wars, and even genocide. Tehran's consistent disregard for international laws is evident through its engagement in sea piracy, drug and arms trafficking, and support for terrorist organisations such as Hamas and Hezbollah.

Recent attacks on shipping in the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea, orchestrated by the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps forces (IRGC) or proxies aligned with Tehran, have raised international concerns. The attack on the U.S. base (Tower 12) in Jordan, resulting in fatalities, is not an isolated incident. Numerous U.S. and Western bases and interests have been indirectly targeted by the IRGC through their terror proxies.

The Biden administration has indicated a forthcoming response to the latest attack. However, it is crucial to recognise that the Islamic Republic's regime, despite being widely unpopular in Iran, has resorted to brutal measures to maintain power. The regime's violent suppression of unarmed civilians during the 2019 and 2022 uprisings, including torture, sexual assault, rape, and sham trials leading to executions, highlights the extent of its cruelty.

Despite sanctions, Tehran remains unyielding and continues to pose a formidable threat to the region and Western interests, with the

stakes escalating if nuclear technology is acquired. As an Iranian Human Rights organisation that is in close contact with activists in Iran, we strongly believe in the necessity of a new approach.

The regime in Tehran may anticipate direct attacks from the U.S. and allies, providing an excuse to intensify crackdowns on internal dissent.

The key to regional stability and improved economic opportunities lies in the complete overthrow of the theocratic dictatorship in Iran, and the courageous youth of Iran require the support of the West in various forms.

Enforcing existing sanctions to curtail cash flow to Tehran is crucial. The U.S. and Western democracies must, in the interest of peace, stability, and human rights, extend support to the Iranian youth who are pivotal to freedom for Iran and regional stability.

Without your support, the current violent cycle will persist, impacting Iranian civilians, the state of Israel, and regional, and eventually global, security. It is imperative to address how the White House plans to counter the threat posed by the Islamic Republic in the event they attain nuclear power.

Past strategies like individual sanctions, condemnations, and isolated airstrikes against Iranian proxies have proven ineffective. The time for decisive action to safeguard international security is at hand, and we implore you not to miss this crucial opportunity.

Your attention and action on this matter are of utmost importance, and we are grateful for your commitment to addressing the challenges posed by the Islamic Republic.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Nazak Tavakoli

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Directors of Association of Iranian Human rights & Allies